

WORKERS  
OF THE  
WORLD.  
UNITE

# THE MILITANT



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## Movement in Behalf of Four Deported Germans Grows

### Non-Partisan Defense Committee Initiates the Movement in the United States

Aroused by the recent deportations from Holland to Germany of four German workers, one a member of the International Communist League, American labor groups and advocates of civil liberty plan to do the Dutch government through its local Consul General for asylum for political exiles. A joint statement of protest against the Dutch government's policy of acting as deputy for the Hitler Fascist police will be presented to the Dutch Consul General in New York.

The organizations signing the protest include, in addition to the Communist League of America (by its National Secretary, Arne Swaback), the Young People's Socialist League of America (Arthur G. McDowell, Chairman), the League for Industrial Democracy (Mary Fox, Secretary), the National Unemployed League (Louis Budenz, Organizational Director), the Spartacus Youth Clubs (Joseph Carter, National Secretary), the Communist Party Opposition (Jay Lovestone, Secretary), the American Workers Party (A. J. Muste, Chairman), and the Left Poole Zion. In addition, the statement was signed by Roger Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Carlo Tresca, editor of *Il Martello*; James P. Cannon, editor of *The Militant*; Herman Gund, General Organizer of the Amalgamated Food Workers Union.

**Protest Movement Grows**  
The statement will be presented to the Consul General by a deputation from the Provisional Committee for Non-Partisan Labor Defense, a recently formed independent group supporting militant mass defense activities on a non-partisan basis. According to Herbert Solow, secretary of the group which drew up and circulated the statement, they will continue to seek further adherents to the movement on behalf of the four German workers and the demand for asylum for all future refugees from the Hitler dictatorship.

The movement of protest continues to grow on an international scale. Recently a mass meeting was called in Paris by a united front youth committee composed of representatives of the Young Leninists (formerly Left Opposition youth), the Young Socialists, the Socialist student organization, the youth organization affiliated with the P.U.P., and the anarchist youth organization. The Young Communist League was invited to participate but refused and called a competing meeting in another hall in order to draw workers off from the mass protest meeting.

Among the other European or-

ganizations which have lodged protests with the Dutch government are the Socialist parties of Germany, France, Italy and Holland; the British I.L.P.; the Norwegian Labor Party; the International League of the Rights of Man; the League of Communist Internationalists (Bolshevik Leninists); the French General Labor Confederation. The Dutch Independent Socialist Labor Party and the Dutch Revolutionary Socialist Party have jointly retained Attorney B. J. Stockvis to go to Germany on behalf of the four deported workers. Thus far, however, no information has been obtainable as to their disposition by the police.

A fund will be raised to aid in the defense fight.

## Order May Day Special Edition Of the Militant

**Bundle Orders.** Now in preparation is the SPECIAL MAY DAY EDITION. It will be crammed full of high-powered political material most effective for the covering of May Day mass meetings, parades, demonstrations and all working class gatherings. Comrades should not wait but should plan their distributions now and send in their bundle orders immediately. Undoubtedly you will need more Militants this year than before especially with our urgent message of the New Party and the drive for the Fourth International.

We want a really impressive list of revolutionary greetings this year. It will add appreciably to the political force of the issue to see nation-wide expressions of revolutionary good will from the movement. Naturally we expect the branches to act first. There should be a sort of roster of Left Opposition units throughout the country.

Then sympathetic organizations, those who appreciate the significance of our drive for the New International should be approached to send in their greetings.

And finally, we will make room for the host of individual comrades, friends and sympathizers who desire on May First to express their solidarity with the movement. Start immediately. Make a systematic canvass for greetings, explaining that pseudonyms or initials will be used on request.

## Rousing Meetings On Shachtman Tour

The national tour conducted by comrade Shachtman has now reached the Pacific coast. There it will take in the cities of Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Since comrade Shachtman started out from New York on March 4th, practically every day has been taken up with meetings in a number of important industrial cities and new and valuable contacts have been gained for the League.

Chicago had a record audience at the main meeting where comrade Shachtman spoke on the New Party project. It was not like the meeting held on the previous national tour of comrade Swaback which had an extra large turn-out of Stalinist hooligans who attempted for several hours to break up the meeting. It was in vain. But that failure, plus the good preparations now made by our three Chicago branches, prevented the repetition of such a dastardly performance and secured this time an excellent meeting. Various tendencies in the labor movement, the Stalinists, the S.L.P., the Yipsels' United Workers Party and its minority group, participated in the discussion and all remained to the end.

**Several Meetings in Chicago**  
Another meeting on the developments in Austria was held on Chicago's West Side. The audience numbered a little above a hundred, which was all that could be packed into the small hall. On the South side a meeting was addressed by comrade Shachtman on the subject "The future of the New Deal" with

a similar turn-out. All these meetings were held under the auspices of the League.

On his return trip comrade Shachtman will make another stop-over in Chicago and be available for a May Day meeting. At the same time he will make a visit and speak at Waukegan Ill., where a new branch of the League has been organized during the last couple of weeks.

After leaving the Twin Cities, comrade Shachtman put in a busy week in Winnipeg, Canada. He addressed a delegate conference of unemployed organizations representing some 7,000 workers. He addressed the main League meeting held at which 350 workers were in attendance. In addition to this he also addressed the Workmen's Circle Club and the Fort Rouge I. L. P. open forum. Since returning once more to the States, comrade Shachtman had meetings scheduled in Williston N. D., and Plentwood, Montana, from which we have no report as yet.

On the whole the national tour so far has been most successful. It has brought home in a striking manner the constant advance made by the ideas represented by the League. The tour has been an enormous help in laying a preliminary basis for the actual creation of a new party. It has strengthened the League in every important city taken in, expressed most concretely, in new membership gains.

The remaining schedule of the tour appears on page four.

## AFTER THE C. W. A.

With official figures revealing that the supposed 4,000,000 on CWA jobs had dwindled to about 2,000,000 by March 22, mass dismissals since that date show that the Government program involves the almost complete liquidation of relief work. The local authorities were merely supposed to "take over" the CWA projects and payrolls; the liberal press, like the *New Republic*, pronounced the change merely "a change in name"; Hopkins, Federal relief administrator, declared about 2,000,000 would still be employed. But the first day the La Guardia regime in New York took over the payrolls, at least 40,000 out of 150,000 were fired. Similar wholesale dismissals are occurring everywhere. In sharp contradiction to Hopkins' promises are his own official estimates that \$85,000,000 would be the total cost for work and relief in April—just one fourth of the average cost for each previous month since CWA began.

The honeymoon of Roosevelt and

the unemployed is over. With the anniversary of the New Deal "celebrated" by an army of unemployed as large as that of the Old Deal, liquidation of relief work and cutting down of relief means a ghastly future for the workers, unless they fight back. New York figures indicate what the Government plans. According to Welfare Council statistics, 187,000 families were receiving home relief in February, and about 160,000 were on CWA jobs. That is, 350,000 families, numbering at least 1,500,000 persons, were living on relief or CWA wages. Even at this point, the peak of the Rooseveltian honeymoon, home relief (for the 187,000 families, approximating 845,000 persons) amounted to the munificent sum of \$8.50 per person per month. (The total disbursed for home relief in February was \$7,216,000). Now, however, with no rise in employment in industry, both CWA and home relief rolls have been cut ruthlessly. During the past month in New York City at least 60,000 have been dismissed from CWA jobs and more than 50,000 dropped from the relief rolls, so that officially the "needy" have dwindled to less than 250,000 families. And these will now receive sharply curtailed relief wages or home relief. Even the social workers do not pretend that these facts and figures indicate improvement in conditions. As Jane M. Hoey, director of the Welfare Council, cautiously puts it in her report: "It should not be assumed from these figures that there has been any decline in the amount of need; there has been a decrease only in the amounts available for relief."

**Disproof of Roosevelt's Claims**  
This attack on the relief workers and unemployed is sufficient disproof of Roosevelt's avowed claims that he seeks to raise the wages of workers. One of the best guarantees of high wages for the employed is a decent standard of relief for the unemployed; this was, in fact, the basis of the reactionary objections to CWA when it was first begun. Roosevelt's new curtailment of relief means that the New Deal's have come to see eye to eye with the most reactionary industrial elements.

Undoubtedly among the reasons for hastening the dissolution of CWA was the fear of bosses and government that if millions of workers were permitted to be grouped together for any length of time they would become organized.

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## Cuban Arrests

The reactionary Mendieta government, in its service to American imperialism, has instituted a vicious campaign of terror against the organized labor movement in general and its revolutionary vanguard in particular. A recent result of this terror was the direct arrest of comrade Sandalo Junco (see last week's *Militant*) and other militant and leading comrades of our Cuban section. Those of Spanish origin are being deported to Spain. The fate of the others is yet unknown.

Our Cuban comrades who are playing a militant and leading role in the heroic struggle of the Cuban working class against American imperialism and its native lackeys find themselves in a desperate situation. We have just received an urgent plea for financial assistance. It is the duty of every revolutionary worker to help our imprisoned Cuban comrades who are in desperate need. Send funds immediately. The need becomes more urgent daily. Don't wait. All communications should be addressed to Communist League of America, 126 East 14th Street, New York City.

## CLUB PLAN DRIVE FOR 1000 MORE SUBS

The Club Plan drive for a thousand new subscribers terminated last week with the gratifying results of 1014 new subscriptions, as reported in the last issue.

Today, in response to the many requests which came to the office, we begin a drive for a second thousand.

The rules are the same as in the last drive.

A Club consists of four new six-month subscriptions at 25c each, paid in advance. For every dollar you receive four prepaid subscriptions which you dispose of later and mail in as you secure them.

That this low rate does not pay for the cost of production, goes

## Minneapolis Workers Fight Starvation Program

### Important Notice

An important meeting of all members and sympathizers of the Communist League in Greater New York will take place this Sunday, April 15, at 8 P.M.

Comrade James P. Cannon will report on the developments in the movement for a new Communist Party in this country, our relations and negotiations with other groups and next steps. Discussion will follow the report.

The meeting will be held at the Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place. Sympathizers will be admitted on special invitation cards to be secured at the City Office of the Communist League, 126 East 16th Street. You can call for these cards at the office all week, prior to Sunday, April 15.

### Militant Demonstration of Ten Thousand Unemployed at City Hall

Minneapolis, Minn., Friday, April 6.—In the largest and by far the most militant demonstration here in recent years, over 10,000 unemployed workers voiced their opposition to the starvation program of the Roosevelt NRA administration. This demonstration, which marks a new stage in the development of the struggle of the unemployed, came as the result of the ending of the CWA work and its replacement by the RWA scheme of work relief on a pauper basis. The endless reel of investigations, the discriminations and the arrogant hostility of the welfare board, particularly of I. S. Joseph, a member of this

board, added greatly to the dissatisfaction of the unemployed. Last Tuesday morning at the regular meeting of the Welfare Board in the Court House, some 5,000 unemployed led by the United Relief Workers Association gathered and sent its committee of 23 to present the following demands:

A 40% increase in relief; No discriminations; Continuation of the CWA on a cash basis; No RWA or other forced labor schemes; Immediate relief for all dismissed CWA workers formerly on relief without investigation.

**Refuses to Receive Committee**  
The Welfare Board refused to receive the committee on the pretext that "23 were too many". The workers who crowded the corridors were infuriated at this reply and crashed through the locked doors of the Mayor's Reception Room, where the Board was in session, sweeping aside the police massed there and were greeted by the retreating backs of the Welfare Board members who had hastily adjourned.

The leaders then announced that on Friday morning a demonstration would take place at the City Auditorium, where the Welfare Board was asked to be present and hear the demands of the workers. If the Board was not present the workers would then march to the Court House and again attempt to present the demands. At 9 o'clock Friday morning a large number of unemployed gathered outside the Auditorium. The Welfare Board failed to show up. Orderly lines were formed and the demonstration proceeded. Although all traffic cops had been brought into the police concentration at the Court House the march throughout was characterized by its orderliness, attesting to the mood of the workers. As the demonstrators circled the Court House the police were much in evidence, massed inside and outside the numerous entrances.

The marchers and onlookers, by this time numbering over 10,000, completely surrounded the building which occupies a square block. Mounting the low stone wall which runs around most of the building, the leaders, after a short speech or two, called upon the committee of 23 to assemble on the wall. The committee then proceeded and entered the courthouse, without any interference from the police, to present the demands to the city council which was then in session. The crowd remained orderly and listened to the speakers.

**Cops Throw Tear Gas Bombs**  
A few minutes later a file of cops began to push through the crowd to

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## N. Y. Conference Against War Is Pacifist Affair

Anti-war conferences, sponsored by prominent individuals, which substitute generalities and futile pacifist fulminations against war for a concrete program of united action by workers' organizations, are the order of the day. The Stalinists set the fashion for these mass-querades. Now they have encountered the rivalry of the socialists in this field.

Following the departure of the socialists from the "League Against War and Fascism", separate conferences, engineered by individual socialists and pacifists, have been formed in various cities. The New York conference held a three-hour session at Town Hall Friday, April 6th.

Like the Stalinist conferences on the same subject it had more the character of a ceremonial mass meeting than a gathering to discuss and plan a serious fight against imperialist war. Also like its Stalinist prototype, the Friday conference was consecrated to the spirit of pacifism.

Extending the collaboration of the Communist League and the American Workers Party a step further, the two organizations presented a joint resolution to the conference. In the resolution, read to the conference by James Burnham of the American Workers Party and in a speech on the resolution by James P. Cannon of the Communist League the Communist point of view on the question of war was briefly outlined and concrete proposals were made for united front action of the workers' organizations, with political parties and groups taking the initiative in their own names.

No action was taken on the resolution except to refer it to a continuation committee for consideration at its first meeting. In view of the provisional nature of the conference and the possibility that exists of securing a consideration of the resolution in the continuation committee, which will contain representatives of all the participating organizations, the Communist League decided to remain with the revolutionary standpoint forward.

A notable feature of the conference was the failure of the Left Socialists, in particular the Revolutionary Policy Committee, to appear and present an independent point of view on the question of war.

## Cannon to Speak On War and the 4th International

"War and the Fourth International" will be the topic for a lecture by comrade James P. Cannon on Sunday, April 22, at 8 P.M. This is the first of a new series of lectures on the international program.

In his lecture on the program of the Fourth International several weeks ago, Comrade Cannon dealt with the question of war very briefly since the time did not permit an extensive treatment of the subject. Following that lecture, we have received many requests that the more important phases of Cannon's program be treated in separate lectures.

In complying with these requests, we have chosen the question of war as the first lecture in the series. War is the primary touch-stone of a revolutionary party. The Second International was put to test in the World War and it revealed its complete bankruptcy. The policies of the Third International, in combating the danger of war through the so-called anti-war congresses, in which it uses all sorts of liberal intellectuals and pacifists as its front, reveal that there is nothing to be expected from this quarter in the fight against the impending war.

Other lectures to follow in the series will deal with the Trade Union question, Fascism and the United Front.

The lectures will be held at the Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place. Questions and discussion from the floor will follow the lecture. Admission will be 15 cents.

## Anti-Fascist Dinner For Bellussi

A dinner to Anthony Bellussi, trade unionist and anti-Fascist, who has been ordered deported for his activities by the Federal authorities, is to be given by a committee of his comrades and friends at Stuyvesant Casino, Second Avenue and Ninth Street, Friday, April 20, at 7:30 P.M.

The committee includes Roger Baldwin, Louis Budenz, James Burnham, James P. Cannon, Elliot E. Cohen, Max Eastman, Herman Gund, Sidney Hook, Rose Karsner, A. J. Muste, Ellnor Rice, James Rorty, Herbert Solow and Carlo Tresca.

Bellussi had to flee Italy in 1924 because of his opposition to Mussolini's regime. He came to this country and worked as a coal miner in Pennsylvania. He was active in the United Mine Workers Union.

**Arrested June 17**

On June 17 of last year, Bellussi was one of a crowd listening to an open air meeting held by "General" Art Smith in Wilkesbarre, Pa. Smith is the same khaki shirt leader who now faces trial in Brooklyn for his perjury attempt to railroad a worker, Terzani, to the electric chair.

Federal agents, scattered in the crowd, pounced upon Bellussi when he sought to argue with the speaker. He was "detained" for questioning. His home was searched and radical literature found. Bellussi was ordered deported.

Bellussi spent 10 miserable months in jail, and was finally ordered deported to Italy, where death or torture in the hands of the Fascist butchers awaits him. Through the intercession of friends and militant labor organizations, he is temporarily spared this fate.

He has been granted the right of voluntary departure to South America. Unless the fare can be raised, however, this right will be lost, and he will be sent to Italy. He must leave before May 1.

**Speakers at Dinner**

To raise his fare, and to protest against the deportation policy of the Government, the dinner is being held, under the auspices of the Bellussi Anti-Fascist Dinner Committee.

Bellussi—at present free on bail supplied by the Civil Liberties Union—is to speak at the dinner. Other speakers will be James P. Cannon, of the Communist League of America; A. J. Muste, of the American Workers Party; Quincy Howe, editor of the *Living Age*; Herbert Solow, of the Provisional Committee for Non-Partisan Labor Defense, and Carlo Tresca, editor of *Il Martello*.

Tickets are 50 cents each, and may be obtained through Ellnor Rice, treasurer, 151 E. 83rd Street, New York City.

Foes of Fascism, enemies of reaction, friends of the working class, of whatever shade of political belief, are urged to attend.